

**our san miguel—favorite places to be, see, eat, and shop...**

**in the centro:**

- 1. Bellas Artes** Beautiful ex convent, now art & music school, & courtyard café. —Closed for remodeling.
- 1b. Garrison & Garrison Books**
- 2. La Buena Vida Bakery Cafe** Great bread, breakfasts, salads, patio.
- Victoriana**—essential oils, lotions, homeopathy, etc. **Diva** luxurious women's clothing & jewelry.
- 2b. Vivoli cafe** Good Italian food...
- 3. La Europea** Liquor & other goodies. Best wine prices & selection.
- 4. Viajes Vertiz/AMEX** Travel agency and American Express office.
- 4b. La Colmena Bakery.** Yum.
- 5. Mama Mia's** The Mother of SMA nightlife. Live music every night. Roof bar, late salsa dancing & lessons.
- 6. El Jardin/La Parroquia** The main plaza. **Heart & hub of el pueblo**, in the shadow of our **pink gothic cathedral**. Also, **Tourist info** kiosk.
- 7. El Bagel Cafe** Best bagels this side of New York. Breakfast & lunch.
- 8. El Pegaso** Very varied menu, good food, great service, Caesar salad.
- 9. San Agustin cafe** Churros & hot chocolate—very Mexican treat.
- 10. La Cucaracha Bar** Famous for Jack Kerouac's visit & truly mixed clientele. Gets going quite late. Home of the ultimate SMA T-shirt.
- 11. Manolo's Sports Bar** In Casa Payo. Free internet and VOIP phone.
- 12. La Parroquia Café** SMA's Best courtyard. By night, **La Brasserie** Good cuisine + lovely ambiance.
- 13. El buen Café** Historic house, gorgeous courtyard, good food.
- 14. La Grotta** Good pizza. Calzone to die for. Great ambiance upstairs.
- 15. Ten Ten pie** Tasty, mid-range Mexican eatery. Try the daily comida.
- 16. Cenaduria La Alborada** Affordable traditional Mexican food, cute locale. Posole + all the trimmings.
- 17. Viajes san miguel Travel/shuttle Agency** Through archway.
- 18. El Recreo** house of culture. dance classes, concerts, shows, etc.

**north a bit...**

- 19. Bonanza.** Fab little grocery store, full of imported & local goodies. (Seeds, nuts, flours, bulk spices, etc.)

**20. La Biblioteca/the library**

- Books in English and Spanish, courtyard café, theatre, Spanish classes...
- 21. El Mercado** The biggest town market—fresh produce, flowers, hats, clothes & much more. Behind that...
- 21b. Mercado de Artesanias** Huge artisan's market, quite a bit cheaper than centro stores.
- 22. Olé Olé** Funky little bullfighting-themed restaurant. Delish fajitas.
- 23. Moonrise Health** Imported herbal, health and beauty products.
- 24. Art Supplies El Pato** low prices. Shoe repair next door. (Margarito Ledesma # 19, Colonia Guadalupe.) Half a block South: **Via Organica** organic grocery store.

**south of the centro**

- 25. La Cava** Delectable deli. Cheeses, meats, & gourmet goods.
- 25b. Maria Ofelia Spa** Facials, manicures, waxing, etc. Great people.
- 25c. Fenecia Lebanese food** Great middle-eastern goodies.
- 25d. Cafe Monet** Good, varied food, great furnishings & art, free wifi.
- 26. Espino's Market** Imports. Fresh flowers and veggies also sold out front most mornings.
- 27. Cafe Rama** Gourmet diner. across st. = **La Palapa Fish tacos**.
- 28 Burrimania** Great Cal Mex — Build your own cheap delish burritos.
- 28b. Hecho en Mexico** Hopping restaurant bar & expat hangout.
- 29. Instituto Allende** Our storied Spanish & art school.
- 29b. Los Faoles** Patio tacos.
- 29c. Saturday organic market**
- 30. Natura** organic foods.
- 31. Tortitlan** Popular, cheap tortas. Free delivery—call 152-8931.
- 32. Parque Juarez** Great for runs, walks & basketball. Kids' play area. Zumba. Candelaria plant sale in Feb.
- 33. Villa Santa Monica Hotel** restaurant. Lovely patio breakfasts.

**west of zacateros/ ancha de san antonio (north to south)**

- 34. San Juan de Dios Mercado** food, flowers, clothing, & more. Christmas brings the ornament sellers.



- 35. Pizza Juanita** Yummy pizza, pasta and calzone. Upstairs dining patio or free delivery. 154-5148.
  - 36. El Rinconcito** Delicious, inexpensive Mexican food and burgers.
  - 37. Closest ATM** Beside the Hotel Real de Minas. (Bank ATM's are better).
  - 38. Longhorn BBQ** Downhome yankee vittles. Thursday is steak 'n salad nite. Get there early for a seat.
  - 39. Laundromat** Closed Sundays. Next door: the **Newsstand**.
  - 40. OXXO/Pemex** convenience store / gas station. Get **phone cards**
  - 41. Produce store** Cleverly disguised as the now defunct: "Quando."
  - 42. La Brasilla Tacos** Hopping, cheap, delish taco paradise, from 7 pm.
  - 43. El Panadiense** Great bakery. French bread, whole wheat bolillos.
  - 44. Cafe del sol** Our own sidewalk cafe. Food, drink & free internet. Stone building. **Next door: Carmen's** cheap Mexican comida.
- off this map**
- South of us, on the roundabout:** happy grilled chicken at **El Pollo Feliz** and first-world(ish) shopping at the **Mega (Eyesore) Supermarket**. Further South, on the road to celaya: **the Gym**.
- Up the big hill to the east: Plaza Luciernaga mall, Cinemas, and US Consulate** (open til 1 pm). **North across the main highway: La Placita (the Tuesday Market)** a raucous and wonderful weekly festival (read our blog)! North, again **El Jardin Botanico** Gorgeous, peaceful place for leisurely walking, serious hiking, even a bit of rock climbing. **Don't even dream of missing the conservatory!**
- Hot Springs / Balnearios.** A lovely way to spend a day, even in winter. Cool, warm or hot pools, gardens, etc. Try **Escondido Place** (you can bring your own

picnic) and **La Grutta** (full restaurant—you cannot bring your own food). **Arrange for a taxi to take you and pick you up later, or hop a bus to Dolores Hidalgo and tell the driver where you want to get off.**

**On the way to hot springs: La Burger**—funky delish country dining, grilled meats, etc.

**Around the corner: Atotonilco.** Rustic village, World Heritage Site church, cool ruins to the left. (Home to hard-core believers—self-flagellation, crowns of thorns, etc.), which makes for a weird Sunday market...

**30 mins further: Dolores Hidalgo.** Small historic city & home of Talavera Tile. Nice zocalo and huge church.

**CASITA INFO:**

**daily housekeeping:** Leave your curtains open to have room cleaned. **Closed curtains = do not disturb.**

**taxis** cost \$30 pesos during the day and \$30-\$40 at night or with luggage. More if you're headed up to the mall, the movies, the Botanical Gardens (or further). Tipping is optional.

**call a cab** 152-4086 or 152-5993 (fee is doubled for pickup.)

**Bus info** The Orange line bus runs on Calle de las Flores. *Cinco de Mayo* or *Colonia Allende* bring you home.

**Medical: Farmacia Guanajuato** open 24 hrs, free delivery, 152-6090.

**Dr. Ramaglia** 152-2111 (bilingual).

**Hospital de La Fe** 152-2233 (nearby). Ideally, avoid the Hospital General.

*If you have any questions or problems, let us know! We'll do our best. We want you to have a wonderful stay in SMA...*

*—XO, Casita de las Flores.*